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CLANDESTINE SERVICE SUPPORT OFFICERS' MEETING

DDS Conference Room

3 March 1971

1. Present were:



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2. Items of interest at the DDP Staff Meeting:

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a. DDP Absence Mr. Karamessines will be away from noon today until 22 March 1971. [REDACTED] will be Acting DDP.

b. Field Reporting of Accidents Book Dispatch 7774, dated 22 February 1971, calls for reporting from field stations on accidents which occurred during calendar year 1970. The reports, including negative reports, are due in by 10 March 1971. When received, these reports are to be sent to the Safety Officer in Office of Security. Also please let me have a copy of any positive reports you receive.

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3. Items of interest at the DDS Staff Meeting:

a. Satellite Communications We were shown a series of slides describing the upcoming staff communications system which will be accomplished through satellites. We are arranging for this presentation to be shown here next week and we believe you will find it both interesting and informative.

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b. Gate Badge Checks [REDACTED] reported that we may expect frequent badge checks at the gates but not necessarily every day. He again asked that offices devote some attention to cleaning out excess accumulations of supplies and boxes so as to facilitate a quick search by his staff should we receive a threat of a bomb being placed anywhere within the Agency premises.

c. Skin Diver Accident Dr. Tietjen reported an accident at a foreign post where an employee was skin diving and went down too far and came up too fast with the result that he suffered the bends. The employee is expected to recover, although with some impairment, due to a quick lashup of a circuit between Headquarters and the post through which an expert on this problem at Headquarters was able to communicate with the doctor at the other end who was treating the patient.

d. Cost-of-Living Increase Mr. Fisher announced that at 10 o'clock on Tuesday a press release was issued by the Civil Service Commission stating that the Consumer Price Index based on the level of 119.2 reached in January has triggered the three-month waiting period for a possible cost-of-living increase. If the CPI remains at its present level for February and March at least a 4% increase would be effective 1 June. A Book Cable has been prepared for selected posts and an Employee Bulletin will be distributed in Headquarters immediately.

4. Other items of interest:

a. UBLIC Insurance At our meeting last week we discussed the underwriter's concern that the UBLIC reserve might not be adequate to initiate the first phase of continued UBLIC coverage for retirees until they reach age 60. You will recall our Board of Directors had hoped to permit a person retiring before age 60 to continue to carry his UBLIC coverage at the same premium rates until he reached age 60, provided he had carried UBLIC for 10 years before retirement. You offered several suggestions on how to make this added benefit possible. You suggested decreasing the present top limit from \$36,000 to \$30,000, or increasing the premiums for retirees, or increasing the premiums for all participants. We discussed your suggestions with Harry Fisher immediately after the meeting and Harry tells us that these points, along with a number of other alternatives, had already been considered

by the Board of Directors. The issue is not dead and Harry is hopeful he can find a way to make this very attractive package available at the earliest practicable date. We will keep you informed.

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b. Retirement Legislation The Office of Management and Budget has requested the Agency's comments on a Civil Service Commission draft bill designed to liberalize eligibility for cost-of-living increases in CSRS annuities. The draft bill which has not yet been submitted to Congress would provide that an annuity (except a deferred annuity) which commences after the effective date of a cost-of-living annuity increase, but not later than the effective date of the next such annuity increase, shall not be less than the annuity which would have been payable had the person or his survivor been on the retirement rolls on the effective date of an annuity increase. This bill obviously has a long way to go before enactment since there are all manner of fiscal and other questions to be resolved. Had the bill been enacted into law at this time it would not be necessary that a person be on the retired rolls as of 1 June 1971 to receive the CLI which is likely to be effective that date. [REDACTED] of OLC believes it highly unlikely for this bill to become law by 1 June. In the words of the CSC, the reasons for the proposed change are:

(1) The present provision produces the anomaly of an employee who retires soon after the effective date of an increase receiving less annuity than an employee, with the same service beginning date and high three-year average salary, who retires on or before the effective date, even though the employee who retires after the effective date has more service. A similar anomaly exists in computing a survivor's annuity because the survivor of an employee who dies on or before the effective date of a cost-of-living increase receives the increase, but the survivor of an employee who dies after the effective date does not receive it.

(2) We are concerned about the way the large number of retirements triggered by cost-of-living adjustments affects the administration of the Civil Service Retirement System. The present cost-of-living adjustment provision "bunches" retirements immediately before the effective date of every cost-of-living annuity increase by accelerating the retirements of employees who had been planning to leave within six months or so after that date. The last such increase, effective August 1, 1970, for example, produced about 19,000 retirements in addition to the 5,000 or less that occur in a normal month. Despite the Commission's plans to cope with such a peak load, work is disrupted and annuity payments are seriously delayed when so many retirements that would otherwise have been evenly spaced over a period of several months occur at the same time.

(3) Agencies throughout the Government are also adversely affected because an inordinate number of employees decide to retire immediately before a cost-of-living annuity increase. Many of these people, if they are willing, must be reemployed as annuitants to complete the projects on which they were working.

c. Shorthand Training Harry Fisher asked us to get your views on the need each of your components might have for shorthand training from scratch. Harry is trying to get a feel for the size of such training if, in fact, you feel the need for it. Please give us a brief note that we can pass to Harry.

d. You Need to Know We would be interested in the reactions within your components to the new Support Bulletin "You Need to Know." Would you please be prepared to give us your ideas at our next meeting.

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Support Chief Meeting
3 March 1971

1- New Assignments:
see attached list.

2- Planned Headquarters changes
to occur some time in next
year:

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[REDACTED] - Chief SB (from
acting) until [REDACTED] can

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be relieved in NE Division -
when [REDACTED] would take
over SB Division and
Hickey will take a field
assignment.

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[REDACTED] NE Division
[REDACTED] Chief DO Division
to retire sometime

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this year.

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[REDACTED] - To head up non-official
Counter Affairs Division sometime
late this year or early
next year.

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[REDACTED] - Chief WH Division late
this year or early next year.

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[REDACTED] - Chief MPS.